Punjab, Haryana and West Bengal, separately during April, May and June, 2006;

(b) the names of the States to which the racks allocated to Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and West Bengal were sent; and

(c) the items loaded in the said racks and their quantity in tonnes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Rakes are not allocated State-wise. They are allotted against indents placed by the railway customers.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Quality of food served in Railways canteens

†2388. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi High Court has issued an order to raid Railways' canteens in view of serving of very poor quality of food to the passengers by the Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (I.R.C.T.C);

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways administration did not deem it necessary to conduct an enquiry despite considerable number of complaints about serving of poor and less than prescribed quantity of food in trains;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(d) whether Government would dissolve the said Committee on Passengers Amenities following the High Court's order; and

(e) if not, the rationale behind retention of the catering/passengers amenity committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Delhi High Court had appointed a committee which inspected the base kitchen at New Delhi, Refreshment Room at Hazrat Nizamuddin and the Self-service restaurant at Old Delhi railway station. The committee has reported non-functioning of various

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

equipments, shortage of staff, lack of ventilation in the kitchen, lack of cleanliness in the kitchen, non-maintenance of personal hygiene by the staff etc. therein.

As a follow-up action thereto, Assistance Manager, Delhi region has been shifted, Catering Supervisor, Delhi has been suspended and charge sheeted for major penalty under Discipline and Appeals Rules Action against Chief Inspector, Catering, Base Kitchen and Chief Inspector, Catering, Delhi have also been taken.

Complaints regarding catering services are investigated by Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and suitable penal/ remedial action is taken.

(d) to (e) The Passenger Amenities Committee constituted *vide* Ministry of Railways' Resolution dated 18.07.2005 was dissolved with effect from 27.9.2005 due to resignation of the Chairman of the Committee.

Mobile train radio communication network

2389. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of mobile train radio communication network to be introduced by Railways on moving trains;

(b) the time-frame for this system to become functional on all moving trains;

(c) what is the project cost and what technology this system would use;

(d) whether the system is tested in any other country; and

(e) if so, the details and results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As per the Railway Safety Review Committee recommendations which is accepted by Ministry of Railways, the Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) is to be introduced on A, B, & C routes of Indian Railways. Of this, work on 3200 RKM (Route Kilometre) on Northern Railway, North Central Railway, East Central Railway, Eastern Railway and Northeast Frontier Railway has been sanctioned and is under execution.